Jungle Storm -II' was launched by the Special Task Force of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, assisted by the BSF companies provided by the Central Government for nabbing Veerapan. Combined onslaught of the STF and BSF compelled Verrappan to run from his familiar territory to a new area namely Boluvampatti Reserved Forests in Coimbatore Distt. and Walayar Reserved Forests in Palghat District of Kerala. The gang was sighted on 02.02.2001 upon which a brief encounter took place with the policy party. Unable to withstand the police firing, Veerappan and his gang escaped in the forests leaving their personal belongings. Maran, who is the Chief of TNLA and a prominent member of Veerappan's gang was arrested by the STF on 15.02.2001 from place called Seethaivanam in the Boluvampatti reserve forests of Coimbatore district. A massive man-hunt is on by the STF to nab the remaining fugitives. The State Government has, however, informed that no time-frame can be given to complete the operation.

Threat to Country's Security and Economy due to Unchecked Illegal Migrants

2770. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY:
PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Supreme Court observations made recently on a public interest petition regarding threat to country's security and economy with unchecked illegal migration of foreign citizens to the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study with regard to the threat country's security and economy in the light of the Supreme Court observations;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what steps are contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government are aware of the threat to security and economy of India due to unchecked illegal migration of foreign citizens into the country. A series of measures have been taken by the Government to curb the problem of infiltration into India. These include, *inter alia*, construction of border roads, border fencing, raising of additional battalions of Border Security Force, reduction of gaps between border outposts, intensification of patrolling both on land and the riverine border, increase in the number of outpost towers, provision of surveillance equipment including night vision devices, etc. The matter has also been taken up with the neighbouring countries at various levels from time to time. There are standing instructions to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to detect and deport foreigners staying illegally. Detection and deportation of foreign nationals staying in India is a continuous on-going process.

Rape cases in the country

2771. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rape cases in the country, particularly in Andhra Pradesh are on the rise;

(b) if so, the details of rape cases which occurred in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) what measures Government suggested to the State Government to contain rape cases in the State; and

(d) the reaction of State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The information received from the National Crime Records Bureau is enclosed as Statement. (*See* below) This will show that there has